



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services



M. Jodi Rell
Governor

Peter H. O'Meara
Commissioner

Kathryn du Pree
Deputy Commissioner

Date: May 21, 2009

To: **Individuals and Families**

Regarding: **Individual and Family Support Grants**

In response to the downturn in the state's economic health and a growing budget deficit, it has become necessary for the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) to make difficult decisions. Effective July 1, 2009, DDS will make changes in the distribution of Individual and Family Support grants. The grant you have been receiving will end on June 30, 2009. The department is making this change to make sure that the limited funding we have in FY10 to help families whose children live at home is available to meet the most serious and urgent needs and to streamline the application, approval and disbursement processing of these funds.

Any family may request a grant for a specific disability-related purpose and the request will be evaluated based on need and available resources. DDS intends to serve those individuals and families who are most in need. Only requests for high need disability-related expenses will be considered.

Your family member will still have access to the family support services that the department offers. To request an Individual and Family Support grant or other DDS family supports:

- You may contact your assigned Case Manager.
- If you are one of the individuals or families who have been contacted who will not receive case management after June 30th because you are not on fee-for-service Medicaid, contact the Individual and Family Support Division in your region if you want to apply after July 1, 2009.
- If you received a grant during the last year you must submit an expenditure report. Grant requests will not be considered for this year unless the required expenditure report has been submitted.
- You may find specific information about DDS Family Supports including Grants and Respite Center services at our website at www.ct.gov/dds.

I regret any inconvenience or hardship this decision may have on you or your family member.

Sincerely,

Assistant Regional Director
Individual and Family Supports